auxiliary relations, purposes to leave to the congress in Liberia; it being understood, that each society shall regulate, as it now does, the internal affairs of the colony - the officers thereof being responsible to such State Society alone: that this convention of delegates in this country, from the American Colonization Society and the State Societies, should be, in fact, the congress, which the reported constitution proposes should be held in Africa. The convention to meet annually at some suitable place, and should it be necessary, to be represented, in its recess, by an executive committee: so that hereafter, when the people of Liberia assume the reigns of government, the State Societies, transferred, in their functions, to Africa, may become state governments there, and the convention, composed there of delegates from such state governments, ~~then~~, may become, and quite soon enough too, the federal congress of Liberia. Such a convention, composed of delegates from the American Colonization Society and the several State Societies, each having equal weight, would, in the opinion of the Committee, be a safer, and, to the Southern States, less objectionable body, than a society composed indis-

criminately of individuals from all the States in the Union, entertaining among themselves various and discordant opinions on the subject of colonization - some inclined to push it to the verge of abolition, and others, again, desirous to use it for very different purposes.

The effect of this system would be wholly different, in the first instance, from that proposed by the committee upon auxiliary relations, inasmuch as it would be to retain, for a considerable time yet, the control of all matters connected with the Colonies in the hands of the convention in the United States, or the seperate societies having colonies in Africa, postponing the transfer of power to a period, when, more accustomed to their position, more competent to an independent government, better qualified in all respects, and better educated, and with a far more numerous population, the colonies in Africa ~~so~~ would be able to assume the responsibilities of a free people, with credit to themselves, and with the certainty of continuing firmness and prosperity.

Such a convention, as is here mentioned, the Board of Managers were directed by a resolution of the last annual meeting of the society, to endeavor to procure, and it is understood, that an attemp

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

I. Minutes
A. Records of the Meetings of the Board of Managers

3. January 1835--June 1838

1837